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SERVICE NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The NEWS is intended to inform staff members of developments within the Service, and is not for distribution to others.

Benton, Miss Mildred

October 4, 1939

TRAVELING CONFERENCE IN THE GREAT PLAINS

Under the leadership of Under-Secretary M. L. Wilson, approximately 160 specialists on agriculture, population, and many branches of science recently drove through the Great Plains, observing and discussing the problems of land use in relation to human beings. These problems have been made more acute by the succession of droughts in this region in recent years.

The main objectives of the trip were to decide to what extent accelerated soil erosion is going on in the region at this time, and to attempt to find the ideal conditions under which man and nature can live harmoniously in the Great Plains.

Starting from Malta, Montana, the group traveled southward through North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, the Oklahoma-Texas Panhandle, New Mexico, and Arizona, concluding with a three-day discussion meeting at Flagstaff.

All bureaus of the Department of Agriculture, several bureaus of the Department of Interior, the National Resources Planning Board, and the Carnegie Institution were represented. Many institutes of education, including land grant and other colleges en route, universities of Utah, Nevada, Harvard, Chicago, California and Lowell Observatory sent delegates. Several agricultural authorities from Canada and a Danish agricultural climatologist were included in the group.

At the Flagstaff conference, workers in the "pure" sciences were brought together with those concerned with planning and administration to discuss various phases of the problems which had been observed during the trip. Soils men, foresters, climatologists, economists,

sociologists, tree ring specialists, geologists, and archaeologists, among others, presented different points of view on climatic, ecological, and geologic changes in the Great Plains.

Members of the Soil Conservation Service who attended the entire traveling conference were H. H. Bennett, chief; E. J. Utz, assistant chief; F. G. Renner, chief of the range conservation division; C. W. Thornthwaite, chief of the climatic and physiographic research division; A. E. McClymonds, regional conservator, B. W. Allred, head of the range conservation division, and Richard W. Hufnagle, photographer, all of Lincoln, Nebraska; and C. F. Stewart Sharpe, of the division of climatic and physiographic research at New Philadelphia, Ohio. It was a continually changing group with local men participating at the various stages of the trip.

ELKO COUNTY RANGE AND ECONOMIC SURVEY MEETING

For the past two years the Division of Grazing, Department of Interior, Forest Service, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Soil Conservation Service, and the Agricultural Experiment Station in the State of Nevada have conducted a joint survey to determine the agricultural capacity of land in Elko County. Known as the Elko County Range and Economic Survey, it is one of the first attempts at a coordinated survey between the State and so many Federal agencies.

E. A. Norton and F. G. Renner of the Washington office attended a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of this survey, comprised of one member from each of the above-mentioned agencies, George Hardman, State Coordinator for Nevada, representing the Soil Conservation Service. The Committee reviewed the progress that had been made in the survey and made plans for its final completion.

Because of possibility for wide application of the methods worked out in this survey, it is being closely observed by governmental agencies interested in range land in the West.

BELLINGHAM NURSERY BOOKLET

The 60-acre nursery at Bellingham, Washington, has become a veritable Mecca for foresters and other interested persons. From neighboring countries to the north and south, from across the Pacific and Atlantic, as well as from all parts of the United States have come interested, curious visitors.

So much time was consumed answering inquiries that in self-defense A. L. Hafenrichter, nursery chief in Region 9, prepared a little booklet to be handed to visitors. It tells the history, activities, and accomplishments of the nursery and includes a sketch showing some of the purposes of tree plantings and a local map.

COSHOCTON RESEARCH PROJECT DEDICATION

On November 2 Chief H. H. Bennett was the principal speaker at the dedication of the North Appalachian Experimental Watershed project at Coshocton, Ohio. He discussed the place of research in the Soil Conservation Service program.

The hydrologic research project was established in the heart of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District in 1935 to study the place of hydrology in land use, particularly as it affects soil loss and flood flow. The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, and other State and local agencies cooperate in the study.

Up-to-date hydrologic and meteorological instruments, including more than 100 rain gages and a large number of stream gauging instruments, trace the history of each raindrop falling on the tiniest plot through a series of intermediate watersheds to the largest watershed on the project. By a synchronization system, employing several miles of telephone lines, all timing devices on the watershed are controlled by a master clock at headquarters.

One of the devices peculiar to this watershed is the unique "in-place" lysimeter. A 60-ton block of earth, cut off from surrounding soil, is continuously weighed by a self-recording scale. Not only changes in weight of the block caused by rainfall, but also the amount of run-off, silt carried by run-off, and seepage are measured.

The dedication ceremonies marked the completion of the construction phase of the work. With complete installation the scientific research program, heretofore limited in scale, will be undertaken in its entirety.

SAND DUNE RECLAMATION

Early in 1936 the Soil Conservation Service established a study area to determine the best means of controlling active sand dunes in the Great Plains. Two thousand acres of sand-dune land in Dallam County, Texas, became the laboratory where the studies were conducted.

The dunes ranged to 26 feet in height, and one of the problems to be solved was the leveling out of these sand piles before the revegetation process could be initiated. Service technicians conceived the idea of utilizing the wind to redistribute the materials that this same force had piled into dunes. The idea proved successful.

This and other methods of leveling the sand dunes, the listing of hard, eroded lands around and between the dunes, and the vegetation that may be cultivated with safety in sand-dune areas are discussed

by Charles J. Whitfield of the research division and John A. Perrin of the division of conservation operations in Farmers' Bulletin No. 1825, "Sand Dune Reclamation in the Southern Great Plains."

EROSION IN AUSTRALIA

An interesting pamphlet entitled: "The Erosion-Pastoral Problem of the Western Division, New South Wales, Australia" by MacDonald Holmes, is now available in the Service Library.

It should be read in conjunction with "Soil Drift in the Arid Pastoral Areas of South Australia," by F. N. Ratcliffe and "Further Observations on Soil-Erosion With Special Reference to Queensland", by F. N. Ratcliffe, because of their surveys of borderland country in South Australia and Queensland coextensive with the Western Division of New South Wales.

DR. BENNETT BROADCASTS

In a broadcast on the Farm and Home Program from Washington, D. C. on September 29, H. H. Bennett, chief of the Service, reported his impressions on his recent trip through the Great Plains.

Recalling that during the Great War thousands upon thousands of acres of grassland were ploughed up to increase our wheat production, Dr. Bennett continued: "Even more of us remember how, in the years that followed, the soil began to blow. We remember the dust storms -- the abandoned lands, the sand dunes, the suffering, and the thousands of people who were forced to leave the Plains altogether, and look elsewhere for work and homes.

"Probably that plow-up of the plains was the most costly plow-up in the history of the world," said the chief. "We are still paying for it -- paying not only in dollars and cents, but in its effect on the lives of thousands of men, women, and children."

After pointing out that for farmers generally 1939 was the best crop year for some time, Dr. Bennett explained: "Better moisture conditions earlier in the year contributed to better yields in 1939. But increased rainfall does not tell the full story. Improved farm practices have played a large part in the betterment of farm conditions in both the Northern and Southern Plains."

In contrasting the crop situation on farms employing water-conserving measures with crops on lands where such measures are not used, the Chief cited the record of two adjoining farms on similar land. "The farmer who conserved the rainfall made 23 bushels of wheat to the acre last year, and 36 bushels this year. The farmer who did not conserve water made only 4 1/2 bushels to the acre last year, and 15 this year."

The present-day Plains, as seen through the Chief's eyes, presents a hopeful picture. Conservation measures are spreading, three million acres in the Southern Plains have been treated for erosion control, and grass is thicker and covers more land than it has for many years. But, most important of all, farmers are learning that grass should be restored and maintained on loose sandy land while wheat planting should be limited to land adapted to wheat growth.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT FILM STRIP

"Wildlife Management Through Soil Conservation in the Northeast" is the title of film strip number 562, 46 frames, recently issued by the Service. It illustrates the wildlife management phase of the coordinated soil and moisture conservation program of the Soil Conservation Service.

The pictures, which were selected from the files of the Northeastern Region, show how vegetative plantations not only control erosion, but also aid in the protection of wildlife species and contribute to their increase. The relationship between erosion control measures and wildlife conservation practices demonstrate the completeness of the overall soil and water conservation program of the Service.

GRADE METER INVENTION

Lawrence H. Schoenleber, assistant agricultural engineer at Clarinda, Iowa, has obtained a patent on his grade meter invention. The device, when attached to a tractor or other vehicle, will indicate the grade upon which the tractor or vehicle is operating.

Mr. Schoenleber has dedicated his patent to the free use of the public. He will be glad to supply further information regarding the invention.

PRINTERS' INK

A paper entitled "Characteristics of Some Meadow Strip Vegetation" by H. L. Cook of the section of watershed and hydrologic studies and F. B. Campbell, formerly project supervisor of the Spartanburg outdoor hydraulic laboratory, is published in Agricultural Engineering for September, 1939. The paper was presented before the Soil and Water Conservation Division at the fall meeting of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers at Chicago, Ill., December 1, 1938.

The tests reported were made at the Spartanburg laboratory in the fall and winter of 1937 to determine: (1) the effectiveness of three common forage crops in preventing scour in meadow strips and other channels, and (2) the water-carrying capacities of channels lined with these vegetations. The kinds of vegetation tested were lespedeza sericea, common lespedeza, and Sudan grass.

For the particular set of conditions under which the tests were made, common lespedeza and Sudan grass both afforded practically perfect protection, while lespedeza sericea afforded only about 60% protection. It was concluded that the safe velocity for Sudan grass and common lespedeza was five feet per second, that for lespedeza sericea, three feet per second. Other things being equal, limber plants like Sudan grass possess a marked superiority over stiff or woody stemmed ones.

In an article entitled "Land Use Adjustment Program of the Soil Conservation Service in the Upper Mississippi Valley" appearing in the Journal of Forestry for September, L. E. Sawyer, assistant conservator for Region 5, describes the methods of correcting improper land use in that region and some of the benefits and savings derived therefrom.

Of the 30 land purchase projects in Region 5, five have been transferred to the National Park Service, five to the Biological Survey, five to the Office of Indian Affairs, parts of four to the U. S. Forest Service, one to Iowa State College, and one to the University of Missouri. Nine projects are now being administered by the Service, seven of them in process of development and two in the acquisition stage.

At the request of Masashi Nishikawa, a successful fruit and vegetable farmer on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, erosion control measures were installed on his ten-acre papaya farm at Kailua by the Soil Conservation Service. This was the first soil-and-water conservation work of its kind in the islands.

The conservation practices initiated are described by N. E. Winters, director in Hawaii of the Soil Conservation Service, in an article entitled "Farmer starts Soil Saving Program" published in Hawaii Farm and Home for August 15, 1939.

A paper on "Soil Moisture Control by Irrigation" by R. A. Work, in charge of irrigation investigation in Regions 9 and 10, presented before the Soil and Water Conservation Division at the annual meeting of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers at Saint Paul, Minnesota, June 21, 1939, is published in the September issue of Agricultural Engineering.

Mr. Work discusses the results of experiments conducted at Medford, Oregon, to determine when and in what amounts water should be applied for the maximum production of pears of good storage and dessert quality.

Herbert A. Flueck, Minnesota State Coordinator, tells the story of Minnesota's wind and water erosion in an article entitled "Erosion Steals the Soil" appearing in the September issue of Nature Notes, published by the Minneapolis Public Library Museum.

LAND USE CHANGES

From available records on more than twenty-three million acres of land where detailed plans have been prepared by SCS technicians, some very interesting facts are shown regarding the changes brought about in land uses. The following tables illustrate the percentage of increase or decrease in each land use and the work unit involved:

Table 1

Land Use	Before Plan- ning Acres	After Plan- ning Acres	Change in Acreage Percent
Cultivated	6,905,587	5,948,209	13.9 Decrease
Permanent Hay	236,634	584,416	147.0 Increase
Orchard & Vineyard	76,296	80,789	5.9 Increase
Pasture & Range	13,011,395	13,571,627	4.3 Increase
Forest Range & Wooded Pasture	455,005	398,126	12.5 Decrease
Woodland	1,942,796	2,277,790	17.2 Increase
Wildlife	264	30,625	
Idle & Misc.	809,671	546,066	32.6 Decrease
TOTAL	23,437,648	23,437,648	

Breakdown of above acreage by work units

Table 2

	Acres	Percent of Total Acreage
Demonstration Projects	3,845,332	17.1
Western Watershed Projects	8,239,791	35.0
CCC Erosion Camps	9,506,567	40.5
Soil Conservation Districts	1,845,958	7.4
TOTAL	23,437,648	100.0

SERVICE OPERATIONS DIVISION ANNUAL MEETING

All regions and many Washington divisions were represented at the first annual meeting of regional chiefs of the service operations division, held at Washington, D. C., September 25-30.

Panel discussions were arranged on topics of interest to workers in the service operations division and plans and policies for the coming year were discussed.

DING DARLING REPORTS ON SCS POPULARITY

"The Soil Conservation Service has finally found favor in public esteem," writes Ding Darling, formerly chief of the Biological Survey and president of the American Wildlife Federation, in a recent letter to Ernest G. Holt, chief of the biology division.

"I hear it on every hand," continues Mr. Darling. "It seems to be the one hope in the minds of thinking conservationists."

WASHINGTON TRAINING COURSES

Six weekly training conferences in the Department will be held in Room 1039, South Building, commencing October 9, 1939. Programs of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Farm Security Administration, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Farm Credit Administration, Federal Crop Insurance, and Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, will be discussed by representatives of these bureaus.

Assistant chiefs, chiefs of divisions, and section heads of the Washington office of the Service have been invited to attend.

All Soil Conservation Service men aged thirty or under, within salary brackets of \$2,000 - \$2,900, are eligible to participate in a training program on organization and activities of the Soil Conservation Service which is being conducted in the South Building on Fridays. H. H. Bennett, F. J. Hopkins, and A. L. Patrick discussed respectively "The Soil Conservation Program," "Administration in Soil Conservation," and "Surveys and Project Plans in Soil Conservation."

The remaining discussions will be: M. L. Nichols, "Research in Soil Conservation," C. B. Manifold, "Operations in Soil Conservation," E. J. Utz, "Land and Programs in Soil Conservation," J. Phil Campbell, "Cooperative Relations in Soil Conservation," and Dillon S. Myer, "The Organization of the Soil Conservation Service."

On September 12 a series of eight training conferences for supervisory unit heads in the Service was inaugurated in Room 323, Standard Oil Building. The discussion topics cover: Responsibilities of Supervisors, Planning the Work of the Unit, Assignment of Work to Individuals, The Supervisor as a Training Instructor, Counseling with Employees, Evaluating the Work and Ability of Employees, and Handling Important Regulations.

CORRECTION

Charles R. Enlow, chief of the agronomy division, was wrongly described as chief of the nursery division in Service News for September 13. F. J. Crider is acting chief of the nursery division.

SCS EXHIBIT

Visitors to the Department of Agriculture -- principally out-of-townners -- have evinced considerable interest in the Soil Conservation Service exhibit on display in Room 104 of the Administration building.

The display, which shows different phases of the SCS program, will probably continue through the first week in October.

TOBACCO FOR FERTILIZER

There were cheers in the nursery division last year when the Federal Surplus Commodity Corporation asked the Soil Conservation Service if it could use about 6,000,000 pounds of tobacco for fertilizer. The tobacco was probably the lowest grade on the market, and was being distributed only where it could be utilized without entering into competition with the tobacco market.

The offer was eagerly accepted and the tobacco was distributed to all nurseries east of the Mississippi.

Harry A. Gunning of the nursery division recently visited several nurseries in Region 3 to observe the results of the tobacco application. The hardwoods and cover crops thrived beautifully, especially where the application preceded the growing of the plants. Only on conifer areas where the applications were heavy was the tobacco found to be detrimental to the plants.

CCC INJURIES DECREASE

The safety record of CCC enrollees under the supervision of the Soil Conservation Service for the years 1936-1939 shows improvement as follows:

	<u>1936-37</u>	<u>1937-38</u>	<u>1938-39</u>
Number of disabling injuries reported	2,418	1,359	1,172
Number of man-days worked	10,170,878	9,215,734	11,736,329
Accident frequency rates (represents the number of disabling injuries per mil- lion men-hours)	25.75	18.44	14.40

During the last fiscal year there were four deaths reported as against nine the previous year. 119 camps reported no disabling injuries during the recent fiscal year just ended, June 30, 1939.

NURSERY WORKERS TOUR REGION 3

For several years A. E. Miller, nursery chief in Region 3, has taken his managers on an observation trip throughout the region. They have visited SCS, Forest Service, and commercial nurseries to keep abreast of the times in the nursery field.

This year, Dr. Miller decided to give the rank-and-file a break. The managers stayed home and kept house while their employees toured the region to see what the other fellow was doing.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

An examination for Student Aid positions in the Department of Agriculture, at a starting salary of \$1,440 per year, has been announced by the Civil Service Commission. Applicants under 30 who have completed their third year of college within the past school year are eligible. Optional subjects are: agricultural economics, agronomy, biology, engineering, forestry, horticulture, range management, soils, and home economics.

Applications from the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming must be on file with the Civil Service Commission not later than October 19, 1939. From all other States, applications must be on file by October 16, 1939.

Further details may be obtained by writing the Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

STENOGRAPHERS TAKE FIELD TRIP IN REGION 8

In order to obtain a better understanding of the work of the Service, 12 stenographers from the Navajo and Little Colorado combined business office made a tour of SCS work on the Breece-Pewitt Ranch on August 3.

"Work that passes over my desk will be more interesting and, I believe, better handled," was the comment of a member of the party, according to Southwest News, September 1.

SURVEYS AND PROJECT PLANS HOLD REGIONAL MEETING

A meeting of the Assistant Regional Conservators in charge of surveys and project plans and those regional conservators who can find time to be present will be held in Chicago on October 3, 4 and 5. At this meeting it is proposed to work out recommendations as to the policy of the Service concerning surveys (both economic and physical), project planning and cartography in order to attain the objectives of the Service and to integrate more closely its various lines of activity.

JAMAICA FORESTER VISITS SCS WORK

Cristopher Swabey, of the British Colonial Forest Service, stationed at Jamaica, B. W. I., is visiting the U. S. to study procedures and means of conserving natural resources, land use planning, erosion control, forest, park, and wildlife management, and related subjects.

Charged with initiating and developing necessary conservation work in Jamaica, Mr. Swabey is making field observations in the United States that may prove helpful in the solution of his problem.

Mr. Swabey spent two weeks in Washington, D. C., and is at present on a trip through Regions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10, where he will visit SCS demonstration projects and work areas. He will also study work of the Forest Service, National Park Service and Indian Service in those areas.

LIBRARY NOTE

The Library calls attention to the fact that the two most popular books of recent months are the same in content although the titles differ. "Vanishing Lands" by G. V. Jacks and R. O. Whyte is the American edition of "The Rape of the Earth" published in England.

NOTES

J. H. Draxler of the project plans division will be in Regions 8 and 10 until the last week in October. He is investigating the possibility of extending the boundaries of the Cuba-Rio Puerco and San Joaquin L. U. projects. He will also visit the San Simon project in California and will inspect an area which has been proposed for a new L. U. project in Siskiyou County, California.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

The annual meeting of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities will be held in Washington, D. C. November 15-17.

The annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy and Soil Survey will be held in New Orleans, La., November 22-24.

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COMMUNITY CHEST APPEAL

In Washington, D. C., and in some 475 cities throughout the country, there will shortly begin a drive to obtain funds for support of the various community chests.

The merit and objectives of the community chest program, I believe, are recognized everywhere. What the program is accomplishing, and what it can accomplish, is of prime importance to America. Accordingly, I urge all employees of the Service to take a personal interest in the coming campaign.

H. H. Bennett

CHIEF DEDICATES COSHOCTON RESEARCH PROJECT

The importance of the hydrologic studies conducted in the Little Mill Creek watershed in flood control and conservation work of the Service was discussed by H. H. Bennett, Chief, at the dedication of the research project at Coshocton, Ohio, on November 2.

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

On October 28 148 Soil Conservation Districts in 25 States had entered into Memoranda of Understanding with the Department.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

Civil Service examinations have been announced for agricultural economists in grades ranging from assistant general economist at \$2,600 to principal agricultural economist at \$4,600 for the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Optional subjects are agricultural history, commodity economics under various headings, farm finance, farm management, foreign competition and demand, land economics, marketing research, rural life studies, and statistical research. From the eleven western states applications must be on file not later than November 16; from all other states by November 13. Further information may be obtained from the Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

MONOGRAPH ON SOIL USE IN CHINA

A new addition to the SOCS library is a monograph issued recently under the auspices of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society entitled "History of Soil Use in the Wu T'ai Shan Area" by W. C. Lowdermilk and Dean R. Wickes.

PLANT KEY FOR REGION 1

A plant key has just been issued giving the adaptations of various woody plants to site conditions in Region 1.

The key is intended to assist farm planners in selecting adaptable species of plants for sites to be devoted to woody vegetation. Supplementary information summarizes the value of various plants for wildlife use, planting range, and types of plantings recommended for wildlife food value.

BROADER FIELD FOR BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS

The periodical Biological Abstracts is undertaking a more complete abstracting of current literature in bioclimatology and biometeorology to appear within the section Ecology under the editorship of Robert G. Stone of the Blue Hill Observatory, Harvard University.

RECENT BULLETIN ON GULLY PREVENTION

USDA Farmers' Bulletin No. 1813, "Prevention and Control of Gullies" by Hans G. Jepson of the Washington Division of engineering, supersedes Farmers' Bulletins 1234, 1697, 1737, and 1760, all dealing with control and reclamation of gullies. In the foreword of this bulletin it is stated that a broad, coordinated attack is in general necessary to keep gully erosion under control. The bulletin supplies information useful in such an approach. It describes various types of treatment and states the principles that should be considered

in selecting and using these means of protecting the land against gullying.

INTERBUREAU TRAVELLING CONFERENCES

Travelling conferences sponsored by Under Secretary Wilson to bring about better correlation between Federal and State activities in agricultural programs were held in the Lake States and in the Corn Belt during the past month.

Dillon Myer, assistant chief of the Service, attended the Lake States conference. SCS was represented at the Corn Belt conference by E. A. Norton, chief of the physical surveys division, and Forney A Rankin of the information division.

EVERGLADES PROJECT GETS UNDER WAY

Headquarters for the project to control fire and prevent erosion in the Florida Everglades have been established at Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Kay Davis, formerly project manager at the Bottineau demonstration project in North Dakota, will be in charge of the project. D5 -
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Present plans call for the completion of aerial mapping of the 200,000-acre Everglades drainage area, the initiation of conservation surveys, and the development of the project in cooperation with the Everglades Fire Control District which involves diking of areas in the open glades to retain water as it falls for purposes of fire prevention and the maintenance of water levels.

CHIEF TO SPEAK AT SOIL SCIENCE MEETINGS

H. H. Bennett, Chief, will attend the annual meeting of the Soil Science Society of America at New Orleans, La., November 22-24. He will read a paper on soil changes due to erosion.

PRINTERS' INK

The powers vested in soil conservation districts are discussed in the Land Resources Department of the Journal of Land and Public Utility Economics for August 1939. In an article entitled "Community Attack on Soil Erosion," Lloyd E. Partain of the division of states relations describes progress to date in the organization of soil conservation districts, the problems encountered, and the "programs" of soil conservation.

Examples cited are the West Ottawa District of Michigan, the Central Valleys Soil Conservation District of Arkansas, the Broad River District in Georgia, and the Burns-Homer-Pleasant District in Minnesota.

Herbert A. Flueck, Minnesota state coordinator, discusses conservation methods in an article entitled "Minnesota Farmers Practice Soil Conservation" appearing in the October issue of Nature Notes, issued by the Minneapolis Public Library Museum.

An article of Mr. Flueck's entitled "Erosion Steals the Soil" appeared in the September issue of Nature Notes.

LIBRARY NOTE

Have you read:

Man and Earth, by N. S. Shaler
 Our Use of the Land, by Ayres Bronser and Ward Shepard
 The Soil and Social Reclamation, by G. C. Watson
 The Land and The People, by H. H. Bennett

All may be borrowed from the Service Library.

FILM STRIP ON EROSION IN THE CORN BELT

Film Strip No. 572, "Corn Belt Farmers Fight Erosion" was prepared by the regional office at Milwaukee, Wis., in collaboration with the regional office at Dayton, Ohio, and the project office at Faribault, Minn.

The strip, 43 frames in length, covers common causes of soil erosion in the Corn Belt and practices employed by farmers in this region to prevent and check erosion.

THE CHIEF BROADCASTS

H. H. Bennett, Chief, discussed soil conservation in the Colorado Plateau on the National Farm and Home Program on October 27.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings during the month of November are:

Annual Convention of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Washington, D. C., November 15-17.

American Association of Economic Entomologists, eastern branch, New York, November 16-17.

Soil Science Society of America, New Orleans, La., November 22-24.

Society of American Foresters, San Francisco, Calif., November 23-25.

INFORMATION CHIEF DETAILED TO DEPARTMENT INFORMATION OFFICE

George A. Barnes, chief of the information division, is on detail to the office of the Department director of information. Gordon K. Zimmerman is acting chief of the information division in Mr. Barnes' absence.

PUBLICATIONS

Recent publications available through the SCS publications unit are:

"Land Use Adjustment in the Spring Creek Area, Campbell County, Wyoming" by R. L. Spurlock and S. M. Lingo.

"Certain Aspects of Agriculture in the Jackson County Soil-Conservation Area" by E. C. Weitzell. Bull. 291. West Virginia Agric. Exper. Station in cooperation with the SCS and the BAE.

"Economic Implications of Soil Conservation in Marshall County" by Everett C. Weitzell. Bull. 293. West Virginia Agric. Exper. Station in cooperation with the BAE and the SCS.

LAND USE ON FARM AND HOME PROGRAM

For the next six months the Farm and Home Program on Thursdays at 12:45 p.m. will be devoted to land use problems in the United States. The first of the series, a general introduction to the subject, was broadcast on October 26 over the blue network of the National Broadcasting Company.

The programs will generally be in the form of a dialogue between Milton Eisenhower, land use coordinator of the Department, and Josephine Hemphill of the Department radio service.

REGIONAL FORESTERS CONFERENCE

SCS foresters from each region will attend a conference at Berkeley, Calif., November 15-22. From Nov. 23-25, they will attend the annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters at San Francisco, and from Nov. 26-30 will inspect the Service work in Washington and Oregon.

SCS MEN LOANED TO CENSUS BUREAU

For some years the Department has loaned drainage and irrigation experts to the Bureau of the Census to direct and supervise the

collection of engineering data in irrigation and drainage enterprises throughout the United States.

For the coming census Roger D. Marsden of the Washington drainage division and Milo B. Williams of the Berkeley irrigation division have been loaned to the Census Bureau to plan and organize the collection and interpretation of irrigation and drainage data.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Recent changes in the personnel of the Service are:

John W. Keller, formerly with project organization at Upper Darby, Pa., to head the custodial section of the division of land management.

Henry F. Shepherd, formerly assistant personnel officer at Dayton, Ohio, to take charge of the selection of personnel and promotion unit of the Washington division of personnel.

John M. Spencer, formerly in the section of erosion control practices at Albuquerque, N. M., will be assistant chief of the farm planning and management division.

FARM FORESTRY COOPERATIVE

The October Journal of Forestry states that the Tioga Woodland Owners' Cooperative, Inc., is the first private, non-subsidized cooperative in the United States prepared to market exclusively farm forestry products.

The Soil Conservation Service furnished one forester and 25 CCC enrollees in the development of this 100,000-acre tract in the southwestern part of Tioga County, N. Y.